

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 01609 071434Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----119057 071502Z /45

P R 071355Z OCT 77
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9543
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1609

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, PBOR, LE, IS
SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

1. RECENT MARVINE HOWE NY TIME STORY (PROBABLY
OCTOBER 6 EDITION) ON CONTINUING PRESENCE
IN SOUTHERN LEBANON HAS SPARKED INQUIRY FROM
UNNNY TO UNTSO ACCORDING TO UN SOURCE. ALTHOUGH
WE HAVE NOT SEEN STORY, WE ARE TOLD THAT HOWE
REPORTS THAT SHE HAS SEEN NINE ISRAELI POSITIONS
MAINTAINED IN LEBANON SOME NEAR EL MERI AND ELSE-
WHERE EAST OF EL KHIAM.

2. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, UNTSO HAS REPORTED THAT
IT CAN NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY STORY. HOWEVER,
UNTSO REPORTING CONTINUES TO CITE PERMANENT
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ISRAELI VIOLATIONS, I.E., SIX POSITIONS BEING
MAINTAINED AT LEAST IN PART ON LEBANESE TERRITORY--
AT BORDER PILLARS 6, 11, 14, 18, 19 AND 33.
RECENT UN OBSERVER REPORTS STATE THAT POSITIONS
AT 11, 14 AND 19 ARE BEING IMPROVED AND ENLARGED WHILE
NEAR 18 TWO NEW POSITIONS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED.

3. ALTHOUGH BORDER CONTINUES TO BE GENERALLY
QUIET, UNMO'S REPORTED FIGHTING LAST NIGHT
IN MARJAYOUN AND EL KHIAM AREAS, PROBABLY BETWEEN
CHRISTIAN AND LEFTISTS WITH 50 ARTILLERY ROUNDS
COUNTED. UNTSO REPORTS CONTINUING
DENIAL OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR UNMO'S IN
CHRISTIAN-HELD AREAS. UN SOURCE SUSPECTS THAT
RESTRICTIONS REMAIN IN FORCE BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE
IDF CONTINUING PRESENCE IN LEBANON.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JERUSA01609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770366-0963
Format: TEL
From: JERUSALEM
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771084/aaaactfw.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5b745734-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1000192
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN LEBANON
TAGS: MILI, MOPS, PBOR, SOPN, LE, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5b745734-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009